Monsoonletters

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The Star Literature editor Khademul Islam said that now is the perfect time that we had a web site which will have a proper archive of all the great writings that have and will take place. This site will not only fulfill that, but will also give us an organized timeline of the writings. It will keep the record of who wrote what and when.

Dr. Karunamaya Goswami thought that it is a wonderful database and within a couple of years, it will become an important information source for both English readers and writers. He emphasized that the internet has become the biggest milestone in human life, and it is a must to have an interactive website like this in Bangladesh.

At the end of the programme Abdullah Abu Said came and said a few words. He expressed his satisfaction at what Rubana Ahmed and her team have done. He emphasized the importance of English, but also requested the New Monsooners not to forget our dear mother language. He was particularly very happy that the site also contains translation and in both English and Bengali forms.

Selected New Monsooners introduced themselves to the audience. They spoke about their current education status, and explained reasons for their writings. All of them thanked Rubana Ahmed and her team for creating such a wonderful platform for the young and emerging writers of Bangladesh.

The event concluded on a thank you note by Rubana Ahmed, after which she invited all to the dinner.

The launching ceremony was followed by an after launch party the next day at Rubana Ahmed's spectacular house in Banani. It was for all the New Monsooners, and included close friends of the website and other family members. The evening was a luminous one as Andrew Morris and his Band Bluenote performed live Jazz in front of the cheering audience.

You can visit the site and have a look www.monsoonletter.com

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Some Salient Features

From page 11

Students of these universities get deprived of embracing the good teaching from their competent teachers. It again proves the weakness of private universities which cannot afford to employ these teachers permanently to run their departments very smoothly.

"Professionalism requires that carry out original research and publish their findings in well known and recognized journals. This trend appears to have declined. In some public universities it is negligible and inferior quality. One way to enhance the importance of original research (not on the basis of cut and paste) might be to link publications (subject to scrutiny by the Academic Council) with promotion of teachers.------- says Muhammad Zamir, former Secretary and Ambassador and a renowned columnist.

The pupils studying in private universities usually hail from affluent section of the society. A portion of them remained untouched by the chill penury so far. Definitely their views about the society and the real-scenario and challenge of life tend to be a little bit impractical. Hence, their dedication to learning registers very thin. Whenever I happen to visit any private university I closely observe the behaviour of the pupils of private universities who seem to be not bothered about the fate, culture, future and problems of this land. Some of them just wait to cross the border of the country as soon as possible. Many students express their intense desire to transfer their credit and go to foreign universities just to cross the border of this country. They want to escape the poverty and fulfil their colourful dreams to go abroad lead them to remain in a joyful mood. Many of them don't seem they concentrate on their syllabus. In most cases most of the private universities (with some possible exceptions) cannot afford to employ genuinely qualified teachers.

In spite of these facts and figures the fast expanding body of private universities is a reality. To give it a good and healthy shape these aspects must be taken into serious consideration by the authorities concerned as well as University Grants Commission and above all the Ministry of Education. The product of highest seats of learning must be leak proof and competent enough to face the challenge of the twenty first century in the real sense of the term.

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Note from Editor Star Campus

In the last few issues, we published articles on the opinions of different students, teachers and academicians about 'Public and Private Universities : Their merits and demerits'. It was a learning experience for all of us, getting to know the viewpoints from both the ends. We will stop publishing any further articles from the next week. We however invite articles from all concerned about 'Student Politics and its implications'.